THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI JAYANTILAL VIRCHAND-BHAi SHAH); (a) Yes, Sir.

((b) The final estimates of Kharif Crops for 1990-91 have not yet become due and the sowing of Rabi Crops has just been completed. It is too early to make any assessment for the production- of Khanf and Rabi Cropff for the year 1990-91

However, as per preliminary assessment, the production of Kharif foodgrains, Khanf oilseeds, sugarcane, cotton and jute & mesta during 1990-91 alongwith the required data for the previous two years is annexed as Statement.

Statement

Production of Kharj Rabi Crops during 1988-89. 1989-90 ana 1990-91 (Anticipated)

(Million/tonnes/Bales)

Crop	Season	1988-89	1989-90	1990-91 (Anticipated)
Foodgrains	Kharif	99.64	100.94	101.0 to 102.0
	Rabi . .	74.28	69.69	*
	Totals . .	169.92	170.63	*
Oilseeds .	Kharif	10.53	9.55	7 9 to 8.2
	Rabi	7.50	7 20	*
	Totals .	18.03	16.75	*,
Sugarcane ' .		203.04	222 63	220.0 to 224.0
Cotton@ !.		8.74	11 41	10.6
Jute &.Mesta@@		7.86	8.35	9 0

@Milnon bales cf 170 kgs each
@@Million bales of 180 kgs each
*_Sowings of rabi crops just completed.

Distress Sale of Paddy

281 SHRI MAHENDRA PRASAD: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIEg.be pleased to state:

(a) whether government's attention has been drawn to the recent reports of distress Mi* 0$ paddy by farmers in Punlab jW«l other States while millets, ha* be^o. greasing for-review and reduction nr procurement prices; and

(b) if so, what steps were taken ty government to ensure that the farmers wej*, not forced to rsswrt to distress sale?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF fOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SURI SARWAR HUSSAIN); (a) and (b) No reports about distress sate of paddy o£ Fair Average Quality (FAQ) and conforming to the Government of India specifications have been received either from Punjab or from other States/ Union Territories except from Orissa which on investigation was found to be largely relating to paddy of below specification quality. The rice millers in- Punjab had demanded substantial increase » ttoe- procurement price of levy-rice for 1990-91 kharif marketing season and were not satified with the procurement price for levy-rice fixed by Government, flie millers did not, therefore, undertake purchase of paddy in Punjab mandjeg to the extent they normally do and as a result, Food